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JAN 31 2006

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PATENT
 Attorney Docket No. 97703

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
 NGAI ET AL.

Application No. 10/691,401

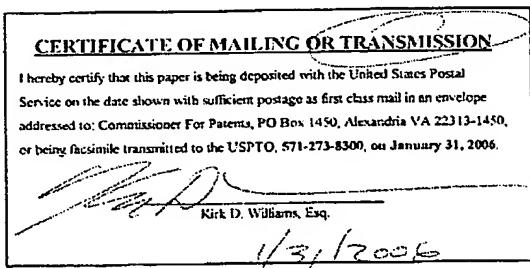
Group Art Unit: 2189

Confirmation No. 6808

Examiner: FLOURNOY, HORACE L.

Filed: October 12, 2003

For: MERGING INDICATIONS OF MATCHING
 ITEMS OF MULTIPLE GROUPS AND
 POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH SKIP
 CONDITIONS TO IDENTIFY WINNING
 ENTRIES OF PARTICULAR USE FOR
 IMPLEMENTING ACCESS CONTROL LISTS

**Transmittal of PCT Search Report and Written Opinion**

Commissioner for Patents
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is a copy of a PCT search report and written opinion for an application claiming priority to the present application. This Search Report is basically a reiteration of an Office action mailed in the present application, so the references cited in the PCT search report were cited by the Office, so copies of these references are not being submitted herewith. Moreover, Applicants traverse the opinion presented therein for at least the reasons presented in response to the Office action.

This submission of this search report should not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the search report is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b). Additionally, the submission of this search report is for the purpose of providing a complete record and is not a concession that the references are prior art to the invention claimed in the patent application. The right is expressly reserved to establish an invention date earlier than the above-identified filing date in order to remove any cited reference

In re NGAI ET AL.
Application No. 10/691,401

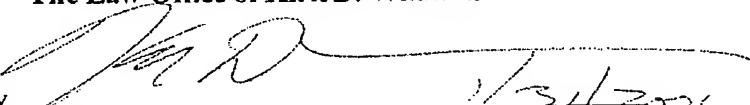
as prior art should it be deemed appropriate to do so. Furthermore, the submission of this search report is not to be taken as a concession that any reference cited therein represents art that is relevant or analogous to the claimed invention. Accordingly, the right to argue that any reference is not properly within the scope of prior art relevant to an examination of the claims in the above-identified application is also expressly reserved.

Although no fees are believed due in regards to this communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any associated fees to Deposit Account No. 501430. Moreover, the Commissioner is hereby generally authorized under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3) to treat this communication or any future communication in this or any related application filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 requiring an extension of time as incorporating a request therefore, and the Commissioner is hereby specifically authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 501430 for any fee that may be due in connection with such a request for an extension of time. Moreover, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fee due any under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and § 1.17 associated with this communication or any future communication in this or any related application filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501430.

Respectfully submitted,
The Law Office of Kirk D. Williams

Date: January 31, 2006

By


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